

HIGHLAND RECORDER.
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Replanting Our Forests.

About twelve years ago the Governor of Nebraska, by request of the Board of Agriculture, appointed the second Wednesday in April to be observed and known as Arbor Day. Parents and teachers of public schools were urged to encourage all children under their care to set out at least one tree each, with the result that since that time over ten millions of trees have been planted in Nebraska alone.

Yearly proclamations have been issued on the subject and the Legislatures of a large proportion of the States have followed the example set by Nebraska. It is a scheme beautiful in design of purpose and one that will, if universally observed, prove a blessing in many ways. Few of us realize the enormous and often wanton destruction of forests which has taken place in the United States within the past decade. It is estimated that one hundred and forty-six million cords of wood are consumed in this country yearly. Spool factories alone for the same period require thirty-four million feet of boards for spools and bobbins; while to supply our railroad ties for twelve months necessitates the clearing of more than sixty thousand acres of woodland. The supply was long thought to be in exhaustible, but at this rate, unless arbor days turn the tide, it becomes a question of time alone when vast areas will be transferred into barren wastes. As moderators of the extremes of heat and cold the benefits derived from extensive forests are undoubted, and that our climate undergoing a change through their destruction is apparent. The springs come later, the summers are drier, autumn is carried forward into winter, and our winter climate is subject to far greater changes than formerly. In some sections where, several years ago, fruit-growing was a profitable business the change in climate has brought about an enforced change of employment. The upper Mississippi and its tributaries have in most instances less than half their former supply of water; and where years ago steamboats drawing six feet of water ascended to St. Paul the navigation of boats of half that draught is now uncertain.

Killing Off The Drones.

Secretary Morton found not only individuals employed by the Agricultural department who were not rendering services in anything like a fair proportion to the salaries they receive, but a whole division of employees who have been practically paid for doing nothing for more than a year. This was the quarantined division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, which Secretary Morton has just abolished. Quite a howl has been raised by the republicans because the chief of the abolished division happened to be the late Mr. Blaine's brother, although it is difficult to understand why that should have made the slightest difference. Surely they did not expect that a democratic administration would feel called upon to take care of the poor members of the Blaine family.

Still After John Brown.

OSAWATOMIE, Kan., April 10.—An aerolite fell near this town Saturday afternoon, striking the monument to Jno. Brown, erected to him by private subscription originated by Horace Greeley, in 1893. The meteor broke off the left arm of the statue and passed through six feet of clay just south of the crypt, stopping only at bed rock. Experts say the aerolite is composed of pelium metal, known to exist only in the sun.

They Are Reunited After Many Years Separation.

A pretty story is told in the Philadelphia Press of the reunion of a husband and wife under conditions well adapted to the field of fiction. The scene was laid at Andover, a village near Roxborough, where the pastor of the Congregational church, the Rev. Samuel Freeland, invited to his pulpit last Sunday the Rev. James Rodman, of New York.

Curious Fines Imposed For Swearing Under the Commonwealth.

During Cromwell's reign laws against swearing were strictly enforced by the officers of the Commonwealth, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Every oath was counted. For a single oath a man was fined 6s. 8d., but the charge was reduced to 3s. 4d., each one "taking them by the quantity."

President Cleveland said he intended to get the very best man in the country, who was available, to be Commissioner of Pensions, and the general approval of the nomination of Judge Lochren, of Minnesota, to the position indicates that he succeeded. Judge Lochren was not on applicant for the position, indeed he had declined to accept it, but withdrew his objections when his party, duty and loyalty were appealed to by the President. His war record is of the bravest, and although he is not a member of the G. A. R. no member of that organization has so far as known had a word to say against his special fitness for the position. He was born in Vermont, but has resided in Minnesota since 1857, with the exception of the time he served in the army. He will take charge of the Pension Bureau, about May first.

Reduced Rates.

In view of the great interest being manifested in the approaching naval rendezvous and parade in Hampton Roads, Ticket Agent, Jas. Kerr, Jr., has secured a personal interview with Division Passenger Agent, John D. Potts, a special rate from this city which is a great reduction on regular fare.—Staunton Daily News.

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against
Stephen B. Bradshaw and others, Deft.s.
In Chancery.

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Eldridge Swecker,

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